DAWAT
ILLALLAH

"SAY: THIS IS MY WAY, I CALL TOWARDS ALLAH"

PUBLISHED BY:
DARUL ULOOM ZAKARIYYA

DAWAT *ILLALLAH*

(Invitation towards Allah)

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INTRODUCTION

Islam is a complete code of life, guiding man in every facet of his life, immaterial whether it be beliefs (Aqeedah), Ibaadat (worship), Akhlaaq (character building), dealings (mu'aamalaat), or social responsibilities (mu'aasharaat). One does not need to search far, the du'aas (supplications) of our Beloved Nabi Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam are enough to guide man as to what sort of relationship man should have with his Creator and what sort of relationship man should have with his fellow human beings.

Almighty Allah sent many Messengers for the guidance of mankind, the first being Hazrat Aadam Alayhis Salaam (who was created without a father and mother) and the last and final messenger being Hazrat Muhammad Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam.

Every Nabi and Messenger including Hazrat Musa (Prophet Moses) Alayhis Salaam and Hazrat Isaa bin Maryam (Prophet Jesus the son of Mary) Alayhis Salaam were sent either to a particular tribe, place or people for a period of time. The only exception to this is that the last and final messenger Hazrat Muhammad (Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam) has been sent for all mankind till the last and final day. This is the reason that nowhere in an authentic proof is there a single statement that any Nabi or Messenger (Prophet) invited the whole of mankind to accept his message. The only Nabi and Messenger that invited the whole of mankind, is our Beloved Nabi Hazrat Muhammad Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam.

This may be the reason that no other Book of Allah has remained to date in its pristine purity, as it was revealed, except for the Final

Book, the Quraan Kareem that was revealed upon the last and final Messenger, Hazrat Muhammad Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam. At the same time, it is the only Book that has been, is being and will continue to be memorized till the Last Day, by thousands of Muslims.

A humble appeal is made to every person to study the beauty of Islam, the Quraan and the beautiful life of the Final Messenger Hazrat Muhammad Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam, to bring true faith on it and achieve everlasting success of the Hereafter.

Dawat illallah is a most important aspect of Deen. As a favour of Allah Ta'ala, it has been given as a specialty of this Ummah of Hazrat Muhammad Rasulullah (Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam), that no other Ummat was blessed with this work.

After the advent of Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam no new Nabi is to come, thus this most important aspect and work of Dawah, which was exclusively the domain of the Ambiyaa (Alayhimus Salaam) has devolved upon the shoulders of this Ummat.

Allah Ta'ala has spoken most glowingly of those people who do Dawat, in the Quraan Kareem: **"And who says any better speech than him who calls (gives Dawat) towards Allah."**
[O Muhammad] "Say: <u>This is my way, I call towards Allah</u>, upon insight, I and whoever follows me. Pure is Allah and I am not from amongst the polytheist (disbelievers)."

Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam has said: *"Convey from me, even if it be single verse."*
Shabier Ahmed Saloojee **DARUL ULOOM ZAKARIYYA**

DAWAT: THE BEGINNING & DIFFICULTIES IN THE LINE OF DAWAT

Allah Subhaanahu Ta'ala created mankind only through His grace and kindness. When he sent our father Hazrat Adam Alayhis Salaam and our mother, Hazrat Hawa Alayhas Salaam down to earth, then he commanded:

فَاِمَّا يَاْتِيَنَّكُمْ مِّنِّىْ هُدًا فَمَنْ تَبِعَ هُدَاىَ فَلَا خَوْفٌ عَلَيْهِمْ وَ لَا هُمْ يَحْزَنُوْنَ ۞ وَالَّذِيْنَ كَفَرُوْا وَكَذَّبُوْا بِاٰيٰتِنَآ اُولٰئِكَ اَصْحٰبُ النَّارِ ج هُمْ فِيْهَا خٰلِدُوْنَ ۞

"So if guidance comes down to you from Me, then he who follows My guidance will have no fear, nor will they have any grief; And those who disbelieve and falsify Our signs they are the people of the fire and will remain in it forever and ever."

Allah Ta'ala has always sent down the Ambiyaa (prophets) Alayhimus Salaam for the guidance of mankind. Hazrat Adam Alayhis Salaam was the first Nabi and the father of mankind, and Hazrat Muhammad Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam, the Seal of Prophethood, is the final messenger. Allah Ta'ala revealed His books to His messengers, wherein He revealed His commands and ordered mankind to follow them.

As mankind and his progeny flourished and continued, so too did the effort of the Shayaateen (devils) continue. Until eventually, they succeeded in drawing mankind into kufr (disbelief) and Shirk (polytheism).

The Ambiyaa Alayhimus Salaam regularly were sent to continue inviting the people towards Imaan (faith) and ordered abstinence from kufr and shirk. Each Nabi propagated to his nation and his people and told them of the reward and virtues for the people of Imaan (faith); And of the painful punishment and doom that awaited the people of kufr (disbelief). They explained to the people that these idols that you worship, they are stones curved and sculptured by your own hands. Neither can they talk, nor listen, nor benefit, nor cause harm to anyone. In view of logic and evidence the polytheists concede defeat, but due to following the customs and ways (religions) of their forefathers, they continued with the abomination of idol-worship.

For many generations after Hazrat Adam Alayhis Salaam his offspring and progeny remained on Imaan. Then such people arose who chose kufr and shirk. We know from the Quraan Kareem that the nation of Nooh Alayhis Salaam had made idols and would worship them. Hazrat Nooh Alayhis Salaam tried endlessly to persuade them and make them understand, but they did not listen to him and refused to leave the worship of their idols.

وَقَالُوْا لَا تَذَرُنَّ اٰلِهَتَكُمْ وَ لَا تَذَرُنَّ وَدًّا وَّ لَا سُوَاعًا ۙ وَّ لَا يَغُوْثَ وَ يَعُوْقَ وَ نَسْرًا ﴿﴾

And they said: "Do not leave your idols, and do not leave *wadd and *sowaa and *yaghoos and *nusra."
(* = name of idol)

Those people, who accepted the Dawat (invitation) of the Ambiyaa Alayhis Salaam, had to bear great, great trials and difficulties

inflicted upon them by the kaafirs and mushriks. They were given many types of tortures, were burnt alive and were killed. Allah Ta'ala says in Surah Burooj:

قُتِلَ اَصْحَابُ الْاُخْدُوْدِ ۞ النَّارِ ذَاتِ الْوَقُوْدِ ۞ اِذْ هُمْ عَلَيْهَا قُعُوْدٌ ۞ وَّ هُمْ عَلٰى مَا يَفْعَلُوْنَ بِالْمُؤْمِنِيْنَ شُهُوْدٌ ۞ وَ مَا نَقَمُوْا مِنْهُمْ اِلَّا اَنْ يُّؤْمِنُوْا بِاللّٰهِ الْعَزِيْزِ الْحَمِيْدِ ۞

Killed be people of the trench - filled with the blazing fire, when they were seated around it; and they were looking at what was being done to the Mumineen (believers) and they (the kaafirs) did not find any fault with them (the Mumineen) but that they brought faith (Imaan) in Allah, the Overwhelming, the Most Praiseworthy.

Approximately six hundred years after Hazrat Eesa Alayhis Salaam was raised up to the heavens, the period which is known as the Fitrah (darkness), the final Messenger, the Seal of prophets, the Leader of the first and last, Hazrat Muhammad Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam was sent as a guidance for mankind. His first task was to call the mushrikeen (polytheists) of Makkah towards Tauheed and the Oneness of Allah Ta'ala. These people turned in enmity and hatred towards him and began to persecute him and his followers. Whomsoever accepted Islam was persecuted mercilessly by them, some were killed like Hazrat Ammaar bin Yaasir's parents, others were tortured beyond human endurance like Hazrat Bilaal and Hazrat Khabaab (Radhiallahu Anhumma) whose stories are very famous.

Once Hazrat Umar Radhiallahu Anhu questioned Hazrat Khabaab Radhiallahu Anhu about the tortures inflicted upon him by the kuffaar.

He said: "O Ameerul Mumineen, take a look at my back."

When Hazrat Umar Radhiallahu Anhu looked, he found a horrifying sight, part of his back was scorched black and dark red, while other parts of skin and flesh were burnt together, puffed and raised.

He asked: "What is this?!?"

Hazrat Khabaab Radhiallahu Anhu replied: "The mushriks placed me on blazing coals and made me lie on it. I was forced to lie on it until my skin was completely burnt, and blood began to flow profusely. Only with the excessive flow of my blood, skin and raw flesh on the blazing coals, did the fire die down, and I then get some relief from the torment of the fire. These are the wounds of that."

Some Sahaba Radhiallahu Anhum were forced to make Hijrat and flee to Habshah (Abbysinia). Amongst them was the daughter of our Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam herself and her husband, Hazrat Uthmaan Radhiallahu Anhu.

Nonetheless, Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam continued his efforts and in his mission of Dawat (invitation) towards Islam. In the line of this work of Dawat did Hazrat Bilaal, Hazrat Khabaab, Hazrat Ammaar and the other Sahaba Radhiallahu Anhum suffer unimaginable hardship and persecution. This is a very important and noteworthy point for an intelligent person to ponder over: "Despite being beaten, tortured and being afflicted with all these persecutions, why did they not turn away from this religion which they had accepted? Surely, it must contain something very valuable, for people to be prepared to undergo torture and hardship, yet to remain steadfast on it.

Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam's did not cease and he continued his efforts tirelessly for many years, until the day dawned when Makkah Mu'azzamah was conquered (Fath) by Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam. Those very same people, who had forced Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam to flee from Makkah at the time of Hijrat, now came into the fold of Islam. The Kaabaa-tullah Shareef was cleansed and purified of the idols which the kaafirs had placed in it. Islam now became dominant in Makkah Mukarramah. After the advent of Fath (conquest) of Makkah, all the Arab tribes sent emissaries and envoys to accept Islam, on behalf of their tribes, on the hands of Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam. The whole of Arabia now came under the sway of Imaan and Islam.

JOURNEY FOR DAWAT

We know that in the initial stages in Makkah, Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam went to Ta'if for the sake of Islamic Dawat. The people of Ta'if were very arrogant and evil in their treatment of Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam. They even had our beloved Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam stoned and beaten. Due to making Dawat, he was stoned to such an extent that *Allah Ta'ala's most beloved, Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam's* feet were soaked and covered in his own blood. Our Nabi Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam only made dua for them.
Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam's dua at that time was accepted by Allah Ta'ala.

After the Fath (Conquest) of Makkah, Ta'if had not as yet fallen, so a siege was placed around it by the Muslims, but Ta'if was not conquered at that time. After a few months, the people of Ta'if themselves came and accepted Islam. Although they had accepted Islam, but they still said: "We cannot break our (old) place of worship and idols ourselves."

The mushrikeen, although having newly accepted Islam, still feared their idols. Idols cannot benefit or harm, but due to their foolish thinking they were afraid to do anything which they perceived would anger their idols. It is only due to the strength of Imaan (faith) that we are able to realise that anything that is Ghayrullah (non-Allah) cannot benefit or cause harm to us. Due to the fact that the people of Ta'if were still very new Muslims, the effects of idol-worship and fear of idols was still very strong in their minds.
Therefore Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam did not reprimand

them for this statement, but was easy with them. Instead he sent two other Sahabis, Hazrat Mughairah bin Shu'ba and Hazrat Abu Sufyaan Radhiallahu Anhumma to break their places of worship and destroy their idols. From this incident it becomes very clear that at the time of Dawat (inviting to Islam), Hikmat (wisdom) and softness is of vital importance.

Concerning this aspect, one Hadeeth states:
When Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam appointed Hazrat Mu'aaz bin Jabal Radhiallahu Anhu as the Governor of Yemen and sent him there, he advised him: "First give the Dawat (invitation) to Tauheed (oneness of Allah) and Risaalat (Prophethood of Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam); If they accept this, then tell them that Allah Ta'ala has made Salaah Fardh on them five times during the day and night; If they accept this, then show them that Allah Ta'ala has made Zakaat Fardh on them (once a year), which will be accepted from the rich and distributed amongst the poor."

Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam further said: "If they accept this, then do not take their best stock (but what is average)", and also said: "Fear the curse (bad-dua) of the oppressed, for there is no veil between the curse of the oppressed and Allah Ta'ala."

[Mishkaat p.551]

The effort and sacrifices of the Ambiyaa Alayhimus Salaam were done for the Deeni and dunyaawi (worldly) benefit of their Ummat, and not for their own personal material benefit. They never kept material wealth and benefit before them and time and again proclaimed:

﴿ اِنْ اَجْرِىَ اِلَّا عَلٰى رَبِّ الْعَالَمِيْنَ ﴾

"My reward is only upon the Lord of the universe." It is mentioned in Surah Sabaa

قُلْ مَا سَاَلْتُكُمْ مِّنْ اَجْرٍ فَهُوَ لَكُمْ ط اِنْ اَجْرِىَ اِلَّا عَلَى اللّٰهِ ج

"Say, whatever I do ask of you, keep it for yourselves, my reward is only by Allah."

The Ambiyaa Alayhimus Salaam did not seek anything from the people, their only aim was to save them from kufr and shirk and thus enable them to enter Jannat. But, as the saying goes, *"A person judges others according to himself (his own standards)."* So too, worldly people began to think that the Callers (Da'ee) to Truth (Deen) also do it to seek material wealth (like themselves). This is the reason that the Quraish sent an emissary to Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam and offered him great wealth, or if he desired position, then to make him their king and if he desired, then they offered the most beautiful women in Arabia to be his wives.

It is also narrated in 'Bidaaya wan Nihaaya Vol. 3 pp. 47-48': The Quraish of Makkah once approached Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam's uncle Abu Taalib and said: "Your nephew has insulted our forefathers, he portrays us to be foolish people and degrades and finds faults in our deities (idols). We can no longer tolerate this, either you stop him or we will declare war on you, then your family will be destroyed or us."
Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam was told of this by his uncle. Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam understood that now his uncle was reluctant to assist and protect him in the face of such a serious threat.

Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam said: "O my uncle, I take an

oath by Allah, even if they were to place the sun in my right hand and the moon in my left hand upon this condition that I leave my work of Dawat (inviting to Islam), I would not be able to do so. If Allah desires He will make His Deen dominant, or I will die in doing my mission (work of Dawat)". Saying this, tears came to the eyes of Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam.
When Abu Taalib witnessed this, he stepped forward and said: "O my brother's son, do whatever you wish, I will not turn you over to them (and abandon you)."

After the Fath (Conquest) of Makkah, Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam also wrote letters of Dawat (invitation) to Islam to the kings and governors of the other lands. Amongst them, in the letter to Heraclius, he wrote in the beginning of the letter: 'To the big man (leader) of the Romans'. Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam did not choose any of the titles of grandeur, which worldly people use, or that kings refer to themselves with. When this letter reached Heraclius, his brother tried to persuade him to ignore it by saying: "Look he has merely called you 'The big man of the Romans'."
Heraclius said: "If, indeed, he is a Nabi then this is exactly what he had to write, he could write nothing more than this."

Secondly, Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam clearly wrote to Heraclius:
"Accept Islam and you will be safe-guarded, Allah will grant you your reward twice; And if you turn away, then upon you is the sin of those who follow."
As he would be the cause of them not accepting Islam.

Heraclius at that stage was in Shaam (Syria), on travel of his kingdom. He asked: "Are there any Arab people here?"

He was told that there is a group of traders from Makkah who were there.

He summoned them and placed Abu Sufyaan (who was as yet not a Muslim) in front of him and asked him many questions. One of the questions, which he asked him, was: "Those people, who bring faith (Imaan) in this Makkan Nabi, do any of them turn away (revert)?"
Abu Sufyaan said: "This does not happen."
Thereupon Heraclius stated: "This is the condition of Imaan when it sets in the depths of the hearts." [Bukhari Vol.1 P.4]

Truly Heraclius spoke the truth, and indeed this was the case; that when Imaan settles and permeates in a person's heart, then he becomes Imaan's. He begins to shine in its brilliance and he fulfils all its obligations, and one of its important obligations is Dawat of Deen.

A MUSLIM IS A DA'EE WHEN HE RECITES THE KALIMAH

The permeance of Imaan settled in the hearts of the Sahaba Kiraam Radhiallahu Anhum and was coloured in the colour of Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam. The efforts of Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam and his Companions Radhiallahu Anhum is famous and always continued. Whoever became a Muslim, at that instant he became a Daa'ee (inviter, caller); and from the very same moment he would begin to give Dawat to others to accept Islam. This is completely evident in the lives of the Sahaba Radhiallahu Anhum.

One year Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam gave Dawat to the two tribes of Madina Munawwara, the Aus and the Khazraj, in Mina during the Haj-season and introduced himself to them for the first time. These people accepted Islam and the next year they presented themselves to Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam and gave him a Dawat (invitation) to come to Madina Munawwara. Within three or four months Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam made Hijrat to Madina Munawwara. Apart from a very few munaafiqeen (hypocrites), all the people of the Aus and Khazraj tribes had already accepted Islam (due to the Dawat of the first group). The Jews did not accept Islam except for a handful. They had come and settled in Madina Munawwara centuries ago, with this intention, that when the Khaatimun-Nabiyeen (Seal of Prophets) Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam comes, then we will bring Imaan in him and join him in Jihad with the kaafirs. Then they did the opposite, as Allah Ta'ala says in the holy Quraan:

فَلَمَّا جَآءَهُمْ مَّا عَرَفُوْا كَفَرُوْا بِهِ ۚ

"And when that which they knew (and recognised) came to them, they rejected (made kufr and disbelieved)."

It is compulsory and obligatory for Muslims to keep the work of Dawat alive and also to give Dawat to non-Muslims. Only by keeping the work of Dawat alive and flourishing, has Islam spread in the whole world. The kings were not the people who did this work, it was the Sufiyaah Kiraam and the Ulema (Rahimullah Alayhim Ajma'een) who kept this work going and alive. Hundreds of thousands of people brought Imaan and reformed themselves at their hands.

It is very famous that nine million (9 000 000) people accepted Islam at the hands of Sheikh Mu'eenudin Chishti (Rahmatullah Alayh) in India. In the massive country of India, very few people are of Siddeeqi, Farooki, Uthmaani and Alawi descent. The vast majority were the offspring of mushrikeen (Hindus) whose forefathers had all accepted Islam. They were attracted to the purity and soundness of Tauheed (Oneness) of Allah Ta'ala and loved it with all their hearts. They became aware of the evil, darkness and sin of shirk (making partners with Allah Ta'ala) and bid'at (innovations). Consequently with true and sincere hearts, without any force, they accepted Islam.

DAWAT BY BUSINESSMEN AND THE LEADERS

In the books of history the names of businessmen involved in the work of Dawat is also famous and well known. The story of 'Sulaiman the Trader (businessman)' is also greatly mentioned. Merely by seeing his good conduct, moral business ethics and through his Dawat, the people of East Asia and its surrounding Islands all accepted Islam. All these people were businessmen and traders and after seeing 'Sulaiman the Trader's' Islamic business ethics and trustworthiness they all accepted Islam.

Hazrat Amr ibnul Aas Radhiallahu Anhu conquered Egypt during the reign (khilaafat) of Hazrat Umar bin Khattaab Radhiallahu Anhu. The people of Egypt came to Hazrat Amr ibnul Aas Radhiallahu Anhu, the new Islamic Governor and told him: "O Ameerul mumineen, the Nile does not flow until we do a particular thing."

Hazrat Amr ibnul Aas Radhiallahu Anhu asked: "What is that?"

They replied: "When the 11th of this month comes, then we dress the most beautiful virgin in the best clothes and jewellery and throw her into the Nile as a sacrifice. If we do not do this the river will not flow."

Hazrat Amr ibnul Aas Radhiallahu Anhu said: "Islam definitely does not permit this, and Islam abrogates all previous acts of Jaahiliyat (ignorance)."

The people of Egypt waited, but the flow of the river Nile did not increase. The people thus began to form plans of rebellion. When Hazrat Amr ibnul Aas Radhiallahu Anhu saw this state of affairs, he wrote about the entire incident to Hazrat Umar Radhiallahu Anhu.

Hazrat Umar Radhiallahu Anhu wrote back to him that you have

definitely acted correctly in stopping them, and without doubt Islam nullifies all previous acts of ignorance At the same time Hazrat Umar Radhiallahu Anhu wrote a letter to the River Nile, placed it in an envelope and instructed Hazrat Amr ibnul Aas Radhiallahu Anhu to throw it into the Nile

When this letter reached Hazrat Amr ibnul Aas Radhiallahu Anhu and he opened it, he found this written

From the servant of Allah, Umar bin Khattaab, the Ameerul mumineen (the leader of the believers) to the River Nile.

If you flow on your own accord, then stop flowing, and if Allah makes you flow, then I beg Allah, the One, the Most-Powerful, to make you flow."

Hazrat Amr ibnul Aas Radhiallahu Anhu threw the letter into the river Nile, a day before the 11th. When the people awoke the next day, they found that in one night Allah Ta'ala had increased the flow of the river by sixteen feet (in depth) In this way Allah Ta'ala ended the horrendous custom of the Egyptians from their era of ignorance (jaahiliyat). [Tareekh Khulafa p 118]

Another story narrated in the books of history is that once a Muslim businessman from the Islands in East India (present day Sri Lanka) reached some other Island to do business. He took up lodgings at the home of an old lady He noticed that the old lady was very distressed and sad, so he asked her what the cause of her sadness was.

She replied: "It is the custom of our land that every year a virgin (girl) is dressed up in the best finery and then sacrificed to the sea. The people draw lots and the name of the girl drawn out, is then all

dressed up and at night she is placed on the shore of the sea at a particular spot. Before dawn the waves of the sea wash her out into the sea. This year my daughter's name was drawn out. I am grieving because I am going to lose my daughter."

The Muslim trader said: "This is nothing to worry about, tonight dress me in girl's clothing and when the people come to fetch your daughter, let them take me in her place. They will seat me by the sea, then we will see what happens."

The old lady did exactly as he told her to do. That night the people came with great pomp to fetch the girl. The old lady gave the businessman - dressed as a girl - to them. They took him and placed him at that particular spot on the shore.

Later the sea came flowing very strongly towards him. The waves were crashing very loudly around him and drew nearer and nearer, while the water level kept rising. The businessman sat completely unperturbed with his trust (Tawakkul) in Allah, all the while engaged in Zikr.

When morning dawned, according to their custom, the people thought that the sea must have taken the girl. When they came to see, they were astounded and astonished to see that instead of the girl, a man was calmly sitting there. Upon enquiry the entire incident was revealed to them. They asked: "What is your religion?" The businessman informed them about Islam and told them that whatever happens, happens with the Command of Allah Ta'ala. No one can cause harm or grant benefit besides him. It is necessary to place your trust in Him and it is Fardh (obligatory) to worship only Him (Allah).

Upon witnessing this event and hearing the Dawat of the trader all

the inhabitants accepted Islam.

In reality the methods and ways of Dawat are many. According to each occasion, in view of Shar'i principles, a person should choose that which is appropriate. The amount and the extent that Islam has spread and wherever it has spread, it has spread only due to this work of Dawat.

AN ATTACK AGAINST ISLAMIC DAWAT AND ITS ANSWER

The enemies of Islam have spread the false view that Islam was spread by the sword. This is completely false and against all the facts. Not a single incident is related in the books of history, nor can it be found that any person, group or nation were made to accept Islam by force; or that they were coerced that if you do not accept Islam, you will be killed. It has clearly been proclaimed in the Quraan Kareem:

لَآ اِكْرَاهَ فِى الدِّيْنِ ج قَدْ تَبَيَّنَ الرُّشْدُ مِنَ الْغَىِّ ج

"There is no compulsion (force to accept) in Deen. Surely, guidance has been made clear from astrayness."

Definitely Islam too, has no need for such people's Imaan (faith), who at the threat of a sword, will proclaim in false tongues. In reality they still remain kaafirs (disbelievers). Everybody knows that if a person is forced to proclaim a religion on pain of death, he will not be accepting that religion with a sincere heart, but will remain a hypocrite. As a kaafir will not receive salvation in the Aakhirah, so too, a munaafiq (hypocrite) will not receive any salvation. Islam has no need for such false pretenders.

It is a historical fact that Muslims had ruled over half the world (for hundreds of years). If the Muslim rulers had forced the people of those areas to accept Islam, then by common sense and logic, there should not be a single kaafir in any of these regions. If the might of the sword had been raised against these vanquished people then all would have accepted Islam. Islam has no need for such false

proclaimers to faith, nor does Islam merely desire to increase its numbers.

The Dawat and invitation of Islam is towards this:

1. *You should believe that Allah Ta'ala is One and has no partners.*
2. *To believe in all His prophets.*
3. *To believe in all His books.*
4. *To believe that Hazrat Muhammad Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam, the Seal of prophets, is the prophet and messenger of Allah*
5. *To believe in the Quraan.*
6. *To believe in the Shari'at (code of Law) which Muhammad Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam had brought.*

Only that person who accepts all of these things will be regarded as a Muslim. He will become obedient to Allah Ta'ala and worthy of Jannat. If a person does not accept a single one of these points, he will be kaafir and would be deserving of Jahannum and will remain in it forever and ever.

It is a law of Islam that when Muslims go to war with the kaafirs, then they should first give them Dawat to Islam. If they accept then there is no need for fighting or war. If they do not accept Islam, then Jizyah (taxation) will be offered to them. If they do not accept this, only then will war be declared on them

The only purpose of Jihad in reality, is to raise and elevate the Word of Allah. It is to call people towards Islam so that they may enter Jannat and be saved from the fire of Jahannum (hell), this then is a great favour.

The founder of Darul Uloom Deoband, Hazrat Maulana Qaasim Nanotwi (Rahmatullah Alayh) states: "Those people upon whom swords were supposed to have been raised, did they become muslims? And who raised the sword above them? Where are those people?!?"

The Ansaar of Madina willingly accepted Islam, while the few people of Madina who did not accept Islam were not by any means, forced to accept Islam by any sword! The people of Yemen also accepted Islam of their own free will. There was no war in the conversion of the Iraq region. The Raahibs (monks and rabbis) of Baitul Muqaddas had given the keys of the city to Hazrat Umar Radhiallahu Anhu (who had been mentioned in their books) gladly, without any war. No sword was raised above the heads of the nine million (9 000 000) people who had brought Imaan at the hands of Sheikh Mu'eenud-Deen Chishti (Rahmatullah Alayh).

The fact of the matter is that the enemies of Islam without consulting any books of history, nor understanding Islam, or reading the Quraan and without knowing the life-story (biography) or character of Muhammad Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam, raise unfound objections. Islamic (Jihad) war is not waged, only to establish Muslim governments or to make Muslim countries or so that people be made helpless to accept Islam.

The purpose of Islamic Jihad is to create a means whereby Dawat to the Tauheed (Oneness) of Allah Ta'ala can be safely propagated; That servants be taken out of worshipping other creation and brought towards worshipping the Creator, Allah Subhaanahu Ta'ala.

DAWAT IN JIHAD

Hafiz Ibn Katheer has written in 'Bidaaya wan Nihaaaya - vol.7 p.38':

The Muslim army entered Persia under the leadership of Hazrat Sa'ad bin Abi Waqqaas Radhiallahu Anhu. Both armies were forming their battle lines. The leader of the Iranian forces by the name of Rustam sent a message to Hazrat Sa'ad Radhiallahu Anhu, to send an intelligent and trusted person from your army who can reply to my queries. Hazrat Sa'ad Radhiallahu Anhu sent Hazrat Mughairah bin Shu'ba Radhiallahu Anhu as his representative.

When Hazrat Mughairah Radhiallahu Anhu came to him, Rustam said: "You are our neighbours and we honour you. We will stop any attempts to cause difficulty to you, therefore you should return to your cities (without any hostilities between us). We will allow you to come into our country to trade unhindered, we will not give you any type of difficulties."

Hazrat Mughairah Radhiallahu Anhu replied: "We are not making Jihad with the aim of acquiring this material world, what we are striving for is the Aakhirat (Hereafter). Allah Ta'ala sent a Rasul (messenger) to us and gave him the message that; "I will place you upon those people who do not accept My religion, I will exact revenge against the rejecters. And I will grant victory to those who believe in Me. The person who turns away from this Deen (religion) will be dishonoured and the person who accepts this religion will be honoured."

Rustam asked: "What religion is this that your Rasul has brought?"

Hazrat Mughairah Radhiallahu Anhu replied: "The highest stage of it is 'Laa ilaaha illallah Muhammadur Rasulullah' (There is none

worthy of worship besides Allah and Muhammad Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam is the messenger of Allah); and to accept whatever Muhammad Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam has brought."

Rustam said: "This is very good, what more is there?"

Hazrat Mughairah Radhiallahu Anhu said: "To turn the creation away from worship of creation, towards the worship of the Creator, Allah Rabbul Izzat."

Rustam said: "This is very good, what more is there?"

Hazrat Mughairah Radhiallahu Anhu said: "The children of Adam Alayhis Salaam are all brothers, we are all the children of the same mother and father (i.e. all mankind are equal)."

Rustam said: "This is very good." Thereafter he asked: "Good, Tell me if we accept your religion, then will you return to your homes from our cities (without war and without taking over our land)."

Hazrat Mughairah Radhiallahu Anhu said: "Yes, most definitely by the oath of my Lord, we will return (home). We will only come to your cities for business or for some work."

Rustam said: "This is very good."

Thereafter Hazrat Mughairah Radhiallahu Anhu returned. Rustam then called all his councillors and encouraged them to accept Islam, but they all rejected.

Upon Rustam's request Hazrat Sa'ad Radhiallahu Anhu sent a second emissary, whose name was Ru'baa bin Aamir Radhiallahu Anhu. When he reached their court, he found it surrounded in kingly pomp, with silken sheets spread out, dazzling diamonds and precious stones were placed around and all adornments of beauty and luxury surrounded Rustam, while he was seated on a throne with a golden crown on his head.

Hazrat Ru'baa Radhiallahu Anhu came riding into the court dressed

in simple clothes, with a sword and some armour. He rode in, dismounted from his horse and tied it up in the court. Then approached Rustam without removing with his sword and armour.
The guards at the entrance asked him to remove his armour.
Hazrat Ru'baa Radhiallahu Anhu replied: "I did not come here myself, I was called here by you. Either you let me enter like this or I will return."
Rustam said: "Let him enter."
Hazrat Ru'baa Radhiallahu Anhu came forward while leaning on his spear and thus caused the valuable carpets and silk to be ripped
They asked him: "Why have you people come here?"
Hazrat Ru'baa Radhiallahu Anhu replied: "Allah Ta'ala has sent us to take people away from the worship of creation and turn them towards the worship of Allah Ta'ala. To remove the difficulties of people and take them towards ease. To take people out of the oppression of other religions (and rulers) towards the justice of Islam. Allah Ta'ala has sent us with this Deen, so that we may give Dawat of Deen. Whoever will accept this Dawat (invitation), we will accept him in the fold of Islam and leave him in peace; And whoever rejects (disbelieves) we will wage war against them until we achieve the promise of Allah."
They asked: "What is the promise of Allah?"
Hazrat Ru'baa Radhiallahu Anhu replied: "The person who fights the disbelievers and is killed, becomes a shaheed (martyr) and for him is Jannat (paradise). As for the person who is not killed in the battle, then for him is victory."
Rustam said: "I have heard all that you have told me, would it be possible to delay any hostilities so that I may be able to ponder over them."
Hazrat Ru'baa Radhiallahu Anhu said: "Fine, okay. How much time

do you want, one or two days?"

Rustam said: "That is too little, I will need sufficient time to assemble all the councillors and ministers of my court, as well as my advisors to consult with them."

Hazrat Ru'baa Radhiallahu Anhu said: "We can only follow in accordance with the teachings of Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam, that when you meet an enemy, then do not give them grace for more than three days. Therefore we will grant you grace for three days. After three days pass, you will have to accept one of three things – viz. Imaan, Jizyah (taxation) or war."

Rustam asked: "Are you the leader of your people?"

Hazrat Ru'baa Radhiallahu Anhu replied: "No, but Muslims are like brothers. The word of the youngest (lowest) is accepted and lived upon by the noblest."

Thereafter Hazrat Ru'baa Radhiallahu Anhu departed.

Rustam called the leaders of his nation and said to them: "Did you ever hear a more correct and morally honourable speech than what we just heard from that person."

They replied: "We seek the protection of God, are you becoming inclined towards such things and want to leave your religion. Did you not see how he was dressed?"

Rustam said: "Woe to you, don't look at his clothes and outer appearance but look at his words and thoughts. Without doubt, the Arabs are simple in regard with their clothing, food and drink; but they propound very high morals and ideas."

Then on the second day they requested another emissary. Hazrat Sa'ad Radhiallahu Anhu then sent Hazrat Huzaifa bin Jahaz Radhiallahu Anhu. He too, answered in a similar manner to that of

Hazrat Ru'baa Radhiallahu Anhu.

Then on the third day Hazrat Sa'ad Radhiallahu Anhu sent Hazrat Mughairah Radhiallahu Anhu again a second time. He too, explained to them eloquently and in great detail.
Rustam became angry with him and took an oath by the sun and said: "I am definitely going to kill you tomorrow."
Hazrat Mughairah Radhiallahu Anhu calmly replied: "We will see what happens."
Rustam said: "I have ordered that each of you be given a good set of clothes and that your leader (Ameer) be given one thousand Dinars (gold coins), an excellent set of clothes and a beautiful mount to ride on. Take these and return home."
Hazrat Mughairah Radhiallahu Anhu replied: "Now when we have weakened your government and your honour, do you now expect us to go away? We will remain in your cities and extract Jizya (tax) from you, and you will be degraded and have to pay us and soon you will be our servants."
Upon hearing this Rustam became even further enraged.

The next day there was a very fierce war. The Muslims numbered between seven thousand and about eight thousand, while the enemy were sixty thousand (60 000) strong. (In a narration it is mentioned that they were 80 000.) The enemies suffered heavy defeat and thousands of them were killed, while thousands upon thousands of the enemy soldiers fled from the battlefield. The Muslims followed upon their heels, conquered the enemy and triumphantly entered Mada'in, which was then the capital city of the Persian Empire."

"And Allah Ta'ala is the Helper of the Mumineen (believers)."

Further to explain that the purpose of Islamic Jihad is to turn people away from the worship of creation, towards the worship of the Creator, an incident is mentioned. Hazrat Imam Abu Yusuf (Rahmatullah Alayh) has written in 'Kitaabul Khiraaj' that Abdul Hameed bin Abdur Rahmaan (the governor) wrote to Hazrat Umar bin Abdul Aziz (Rahmatullah Alayh) that the Christians, Jews and idol-worshippers here in Hira are all starting to accept Islam. Many of them have Jizya (war tax) outstanding upon them. We desire permission to still collect the outstanding tax from them (even though they have now accepted Islam).

Hazrat Umar bin Abdul Aziz (Rahmatullah Alayh) wrote back: *"Allah Ta'ala sent Muhammad-ur-Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam to give people Dawat, not to accumulate wealth. Whoever accepts Islam from them, it is Fardh upon them to give the Zakaat (annually), all Jizya (war tax) is ended for them."*

This is the reality of Islamic Jihad. If a Muslim ruler does some action against Islamic principles, then Islam cannot be blamed. The purpose of Jihad is to eradicate kufr and shirk and to spread the gardens of Imaan (belief) in our Creator and Master, Allah Subhaanahu Ta'ala.

If the enemies of Islam object to Islamic Jihad, then for centuries, especially the kuffaar (disbelievers) have been making wars to conquer the Islamic countries and Islam. Hundreds of thousands of people have been slain at their hands.

In 1887 the British began mass killings of the civilians, men, women and not even children were spared of their wrath, in India. Look at the two world wars, World War I in 1914 and World War II in 1944, as well as the dropping of the Atomic bombs on civilians in

Hiroshima and Nagasaki, together with the crusades of the middle ages, what was the purpose of all this? Who made these wars? What GOOD and WELL-BEING was this meant to spread? Why did these objectors to Islamic Jihad have all these wars?!?
Did they not desire to spread their kufr and to eradicate Islam?

If we consider the efforts made in trying to suppress and destroy Islam from its inception and beginning period, which the kaafirs are still continuing upto this day, it should not have spread to one house even in Makkah. Yet, Allah Ta'ala spread His religion and millions upon millions of Muslims from that time until today have accepted and practice on Islam and many more are still entering into Islam. The efforts of the enemies have failed and Islam is still spreading.

Islam really is spreading. In Europe, America, Canada, Africa, Australia, and Asia and in many non-Muslim countries people are turning towards Islam, and accepting Islam. Now this flood will no longer be contained. Islam has always defeated its opponents by means of clear evidence and proofs. In relation to its propagation it has reached almost every home worldwide. It is the fulfillment of the prophecy made by Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam:
There will be no home built of sand, nor any tent made of hair on the face of this earth but that the Word of Allah Ta'ala will reach it, whether honourable people accept in honour or low people accept it in dishonour. [Mishkaat p. 18]

The enemies of Islam have always seen that the help of Allah Ta'ala is with the people of Islam. They also know that in the end their efforts will not be successful in harming Islam. Yet they continue their efforts in their foolishness. They know that what Allah Ta'ala

desires will happen, yet they do not desist from their opposition. At the same time, on the other hand, thousands of people are becoming Muslims in Europe and America. The enemies of Islam hear the Azaan, see people performing Salaah, see Islam spreading, see their churches being abandoned by their congregations and being turned into Musjids, then too, their eyes do not open to the fact that their efforts and opposition will not cause any harm to the spread of Islam and the Dawat (propagation) of Islam.

Those people who are in charge (priests, rabbis and padres) of their kufr and shirk religions, do not allow their followers to accept Islam, and try to keep them satisfied on their kufr. Despite their efforts, their general followers' hearts are not at ease. When they are born, their religions are written on certificates, yet in reality their hearts are not contented on their false religions. Soon the discontent found in their hearts will bring about a change and they will realise the truth of Islam. We have only to make Dawah to them. That day is not far, when the whole world will become under Islam, Insha-Allah!!!

DAWAT TO ISLAM

Sayyidina Muhammad Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam is Allah Ta'ala's final Messenger and now no new messengers are to come after him. The Quraan Kareem is Allah Ta'ala's final revelation and book, and now no new revelation will come down

The Quraan Majeed is that great miracle which shows the truthfulness of Muhammad Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam, the messenger of Allah. It is the challenge of the Quraan from fourteen hundred years ago, to all humanity to bring even one chapter the like of the Quraan. Till today, no one has been able to do it and no one will ever be able to do so. This is such a challenge, which has made the enemies of Islam and its rejecters, the Jews and Christians completely helpless. Allah Ta'ala Himself declares:

فَإِنْ لَّمْ تَفْعَلُوْا وَلَنْ تَفْعَلُوْا فَاتَّقُوا النَّارَ الَّتِىْ وَقُوْدُهَا النَّاسُ وَالْحِجَارَةُ ۚ أُعِدَّتْ لِلْكٰفِرِيْنَ ﴿﴾

"And if you cannot do it (bring the like of a chapter of the Quraan) and you will never be able to do so, then save yourselves from the fire (of Hell); its fuel is mankind and stones; which is prepared for the disbelievers (kaafirs)." [Baqarah]

Islam is a perfect, complete and all encompassing religion, which constitutes all aspects of man's life. Whether it be Aqaa'id (beliefs), good actions, good character, business dealings, social and economic life, politics, law, legal procedures and penalties are all to be found in it. Whereas all the other religions have only a particular portion, or important advice. Therefore the adherents and followers

make up their own (man-made) beliefs, morality and laws. Due to the fact that they make up their own laws, when the general public do not accept it, the priestly class change it again themselves, without any compunction or regard for Allah's Laws.

If everything happened according to our whims, hopes and own private beliefs (of each person), then what need would there have been for Allah Ta'ala to send his messengers and prophets. What need was there for Allah Ta'ala to reveal His heavenly books, to the various prophets. Therefore Allah Ta'ala, Himself, by means of His prophets and true books has shown us what our beliefs should be and in what manner we should worship Him.

Allah Subhaanahu Ta'ala has ended future Prophethood upon the advent of Hazrat Muhammad, Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam. He has been sent as a universal Nabi (messenger) foı all mankind, all places and for all times. No new prophet is to come after him, for Allah Ta'ala says in the Quraan:

وَمَا اَرْسَلْنٰكَ اِلَّا كَافَّةً لِّلنَّاسِ بَشِيْرًا وَّ نَذِيْرًا وَّ لٰكِنَّ اَكْثَرَ النَّاسِ لَا يَعْلَمُوْنَ ﴿﴾

"And we have not sent you but for all mankind, a giver of glad-tidings and a Warner (against evil) but most people do not know."

AN OPEN INVITATION AND DAWAT

It is a reality that every person will have to die. The Day of Qiyaamat (resurrection) faces us. Accounting for our deeds is to take place and success and salvation will be for that person who is on the Deen (religion) of Allah Ta'ala, and he will be granted the favours of that Day. He will be entered into paradise and will remain in it forever and ever. Whereas for those who did not die on the Deen (religion) which Allah Ta'ala sent, great doom and destruction awaits them and they will be placed forever in the punishment of hell. This is what most people of other religions believe in.

The necessity now is for every person to see that the religion that I follow, is it what Allah Ta'ala has sent down or not? If a person claims that I am on the religion sent by Allah Ta'ala, then he should look for proof and evidence of this and thus satisfy himself.

What great callousness and misfortune will this not be, that you choose a religion, do your worship and follow its dictates, but you do not follow the religion which our Creator and Lord, Allah Subhaanahu Ta'ala sent down. How can a man-sculptured religion

If some one followed a religion and after death it becomes apparent that this was a false religion, there will be no way of returning to this world to make amends. At the same time you know that a person who did not believe in Allah Ta'ala will be in eternal punishment, what will your condition be?

Every person should concern himself with this, and should make dua (supplication): *"O my Lord, guide me to the true religion that is accepted by You."*

In accepting the truth, some worldly difficulty may be experienced. Merely for a little worldly loss, do not destroy your Hereafter (Aakhirat) and be placed in punishment (where that same wordly gain will not come to assist you).

The topic of this book was taken from the verse of Surah Yusuf in the Quraan:

قُلْ هٰذِهٖ سَبِيْلِىْٓ اَدْعُوْٓا اِلَى اللّٰهِ ۚ عَلٰى بَصِيْرَةٍ اَنَا وَ مَنِ اتَّبَعَنِىْ ؕ وَ سُبْحٰنَ اللّٰهِ وَ مَا اَنَا مِنَ الْمُشْرِكِيْنَ ﴿﴾

[O Muhammad] "Say: This is my way, I call towards Allah, upon insight, I and whoever follows me. Pure is Allah and I am not from amongst the polytheist (disbelievers)."

We are giving Dawat (invitation) to all the nations, peoples, and countries to accept Islam, with insight. Concern yourself about your own Hereafter (Aakhirat – life after death). Do not reject Islam, the religion of Allah (God) out of hand and thus cause yourself to be cast in eternal punishment of hell in the hereafter.

Our Dawat (invitation), where it relates to non-muslims, is to accept Islam; and where it relates to Muslims, is to continue giving Dawat to Islam and to continue to present Islam with wisdom and pleasant manners to the non-muslims. The betterment of all mankind is in this that we should concern ourselves with the life of the hereafter and of our salvation (najaat) which can only be achieved by accepting ISLAM.

And my guidance is from Allah, He is my Helper and upon Him do I trust. Alhamdulillah was Salaatu was Salaamu alaa Rasulillah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam